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Happy Birthday to Jan Edwards & Martin Edwards!



The Stranded Irishman

One day an Irishman, who had been stranded on a deserted island for over 10 years, saw a speck on the horizon.

He thought to himself, "It's certainly not a ship." As the speck got closer and closer, he began to rule out even the possibilities of a small boat or raft. Suddenly there strode from the surf a figure clad in a black wetsuit.

Putting aside the scuba tanks and mask and zipping down the top of the wetsuit stood a drop-dead gorgeous blonde! She walked up to the stunned Irishman and said to him, "Tell me, how long has it been since you've had a good cigar?"

"Ten years" replied the amazed Irishman. With that, she reached over and unzipped a waterproof pocket on the left sleeve of her wetsuit and pulled out a fresh package of cigars and a lighter. He took a cigar, slowly lit it, and took a long drag. "Faith and begorrah," said the castaway, "that is so good! I'd almost forgotten how great a smoke can be!"

"And how long has it been since you've had a drop of good Bushmill's Irish Whiskey?" asked the blonde. Trembling, the castaway replied, "Ten years." Hearing that, the blonde reached over to her right sleeve, unzipped a pocket there and removed a flask and handed it to him. He opened the flask and took a long drink. "'Tis nectar of the Gods!" shouted the Irishman. "'Tis truly fantastic!!!"

At this point the gorgeous blonde started to slowly unzip the long front of her wetsuit, right down the middle. She looked at the trembling man and asked, "And how long has it been since you played around?"

With tears in his eyes, the Irishman fell to his knees and sobbed, "Jesus, Mary and Joseph! Don't tell me that you've got **golf clubs** in there too!"

Happy St Patricks Day!!



WATTS NEWS

Happy Easter to all of you!



2009 has already been a year with additional billing and processing issues by Origin, AGL and other associated parties which have kept us very busy. However, the Reversed NMI issue for Building Apple and Banana (remember our December issue) has been resolved – only took 16 months. The Watts Chicks would like to thank **Laurie Lesley from AGL who fixed this issue within 2 days – Sir Laurie is our hero!**

Our favourite client Mylo Browncoat has not been well. Has been on stress relief due to the billing & metering issues for a couple of his properties. In no particular order are the on-going and new issues Mylo Browncoat and some of the other Watts clients are facing in 2009:

1. New building purchased

Electricity sale agreement expired and the owner is being billed on 18.8 cents Peak and 5.0013 cents Off Peak by AGL, costing this client an additional \$60,000 per month – approximately \$2000 per day – BELIEVE IT OR NOT!

2. What is the Post Office Box for Heaven – decreased persons still receiving notices

Origin are still sending letters to dead people. Have been advised person died 20 years ago, account has not been in their name for 20 years but Origin system seems to like wasting paper, time and costs and continues to send advices to people who have been buried for over 20 years – Appears there is no difference if you are living or deceased person in Queensland. Don't worry, they only supply most of the domestic use and bill us Queenslanders for our home use, no need to be concerned, only a Global financial crisis so no problems if you are paying more than you should. I wonder who Anna or Peter Beattie's suppliers are and if their bills are correct or maybe part of the deal is they get free energy and we pay for them like we always do. Believe It or Not?????????

3. Yet Another Origin Issue

Believe it or Not – the following are extracts taken from an Origin letter – "Renewing your Electricity Sale Agreement with us is **easy** and offers your business a range of benefits such as the certainty of locking in a price for up to 4 years and access to a range of products and services to help your business understand and minimise its impact on our environment. Further, our experienced business account managers will guide you every step of the way and you can rest assured you're dealing with an Australian Company. If you have not entered into a new Electricity Sale Agreement with us by the End Date the terms and conditions of your ESA and the following new energy rates (excluding GST) will apply:

Peak – 20.00 cents per kWh
Off Peak – 10.00 cents per kWh
Shoulder – 20 cents per kWh

We are keen to ensure you are getting the right service etc etc etc

Again, does not matter if Origin overcharges you, issues you with the wrong account and then to get these errors fixed, well, in some instances you will celebrate 2 birthdays, marry and perhaps separate, have a child or change jobs in the timeframe it takes to get the problems fixed and correct credits issued. Concerns are if they can't get an accounting system that works, how do they minimise its impact on our environment, getting the address correct to post the accounts to is a major issue for Origin and "no difference if you are living or dead. Remember the song Stairway to Heaven, well now there is a Post Box to Heaven and be prepared after you have checked out, you will still receive correspondence from Origin, you can't get away from them – They never let you Go!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

4. Frustration with AGL grows in 2009

Copy of email received by our office on 19/03/2009 (client's name withheld):

"Attached is the Electricity Invoice from AGL. You know how they sent a

Year's worth of monthly invoices that I sent to you and you said not to pay them as we had been overcharged. Well we have just received this invoice for the period 04/02/09 – 03/03/09 and have not yet received all the reissued invoices for the year. Is this one not to be paid also or is it on the correct tariff? Also, for another account, we received a disconnection warning in the mail but as per normal, the idiots from AGL have not sent us the monthly bills. The last monthly bill we received was for the October which **took me almost 3 months after ringing them, emailing them** and then we finally got them in Feb this year. Also, for yet another account the same deal and the last bill we had from them was 01/12/08 – 31/12/08. **I seriously don't want to deal with idiots anymore.** Many Queensland living customers feel like this.

5. Purchasing a Commercial or Retail Property

Detailed in Watts News December 2006 – Issue 12

"We suggest that as part of Due Diligence you consider introducing Electricity and obtain a copy of the last electricity account.

- If there is an Electricity Sale Agreement, obtain a copy to determine if you wish to take assignment of the existing agreement or negotiate your own new agreement.
- If the property on-sells, request copies of the previous three months summaries for the tenants together with each tenant's tariff.
- Request confirmation all meters are operating correctly.
- Double check assignment or novation of agreement has been signed by seller otherwise you will be waiting a while for your accounts and possibly much higher rates."

This information will save you \$\$\$, time and a lot of grief.